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ABSTRACT

This source book is designed to give parents, teachers, and other caregivers of young children more than 200 sample activities for children that are fun, easy, and educationally sound. Chapter 1 introduces principles of early childhood programs, the "home-school connection," and tips on how to communicate with children. This chapter also gives an overview of the book and includes 13 references. The overview briefly describes seven key areas of the child's physical, intellectual, social, and emotional development. These areas correspond with the titles and activities in chapters 2 through 8. Chapter 2 discusses body movement, and includes activities for body awareness and coordinating large and small muscles. Chapter 3 describes listening and hearing activities. The activities in Chapter 4 are centered around language. "Looking and Seeing" is the focus of chapter 5, which includes activities dealing with: (1) recognizing colors; (2) identifying shapes; (3) distinguishing left from right; and (4) learning letters. Chapter 6 provides mathematics activities, while chapter 7 presents science activities. Chapter 8 presents social and emotional development activities, including ones that deal with children's self concepts, relationships, and ideas of responsibility. Each chapter includes a short introduction that discusses the major concepts behind the activities. (BC)

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